BOOM! STUDIOS™

JAMES TYNION IV

WERTHER DELL'EDERA

MIQUEL MUERTO

Nº 2

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

BEEP BEEP BEEP

MISSING

BEEP BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEE-

FUCK ME.

TOMMY?

MOM, I'M RUNNING LATE.

OH HELL, DID YOU SLEEP?

A LITTLE. ENOUGH.

DID *YOU?* YOU LOOK TERRIBLE.

THANKS, MOM.

I'M JUST BEING HONEST. YOU SHOULD WASH YOUR FACE AT LEAST.

HELP GET THOSE RINGS OUT FROM UNDER YOUR EYES.

I CAN DO IT AT THE RESTAURANT.

ARE YOU GOING TO, THOUGH?

IT'S FINE.

TAKE A STACK OF PAPERS, FOR THE CARS IN THE LOT.

MOM, I TOLD YOU...

...THEY ASKED ME TO STOP DOING THAT. THEY SAID IT UPSETS THE CUSTOMERS.

ARE THEY GOING TO FIRE YOU IF YOU DO IT AGAIN?

I MEAN, NO. I'M A MANAGER, AND THE OWNER'S REALLY SYMPATHETIC.

THEN PUT THEM ON THE CARS. IT'LL MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

LIKE SOMEBODY IS DOING SOMETHING IN THIS HORRIBLE LITTLE TOWN.

HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING? FROM THE SHERIFF? FROM DAD?

MISSING

NO. NOBODY IS TELLING ME ANYTHING.

I THINK SHE'S DEAD. BUT NOBODY IS GOING TO TELL ME.

WHY WOULD SHE BE ALIVE IF THE OTHERS ARE DEAD?

YOU CAN'T THINK LIKE THAT.

WE'RE GOING TO FIND HER.

MM.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT. BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO SAY, AND THAT'S OKAY.

GO TO WORK. GET IT ALL OUT OF YOUR HEAD A BIT.

DON'T FORGET--

I WON'T.

FUCK.

CREEEAK

HELLO?

IS ANYBODY THERE?

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN

MISSING
MISSING

Applebeams
SO, UH. WHERE DO WE START? HOW DO YOU HUNT MONSTERS?
WE START BY FIGURING OUT WHERE TO START.

AND THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THERE? REALLY?

YEAH. MAYBE.

D-DING

YOU THE MANAGER?

UH...? YEAH? SORRY, WE JUST OPENED...

DO PEOPLE COME HERE?

WHAT?

THIS PLACE. DO YOU GET PEOPLE IN HERE OR IS IT USUALLY PRETTY EMPTY?

I'M SORRY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION...

IF I SAY THAT BOOTH OVER THERE IS MY BOOTH, AND I'M GONNA LEAVE STUFF THERE, WOULD THAT BE A PROBLEM?

DO YOU HAVE, LIKE, A LUNCH RUSH THAT I NEED TO BE WORRIED ABOUT?

I DON'T... WE HAVE A POLICY...

YEAH, BUT IS IT ACTUALLY A PROBLEM OR JUST A FAKE PROBLEM YOU CAN IGNORE?

LOOK...

FIFTY BUCKS A DAY TO YOU. RIGHT IN YOUR POCKET. AND I'LL ORDER STUFF. AND TIP.

DEAL? SHOULD ONLY BE A FEW DAYS.

THERE'S ANOTHER MANAGER HERE ON THURSDAY. SHE'S A STICKLER FOR THE--

I'LL STEER CLEAR ON THURSDAYS. *DEAL?*

DEAL.

THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY.

NOT THE KIND OF THING YOU SAY OUT LOUD.

YOU PULLED IT OUT OF YOUR BAG.

YEAH, BUT YOU DON'T TALK ABOUT IT. YOU LET IT BE MYSTERIOUS.

YOU LIKE BEING MYSTERIOUS.

YEAH.

WHY THE OCTOPUS?

DON'T ASK ABOUT THE OCTOPUS.

WHAT *AM* I ALLOWED TO ASK ABOUT?

I DON'T KNOW. NOT A LOT.

WHERE'D YOU GET ALL OF THIS?

I PRINTED IT AT THE KINKO'S.

OH.

THAT'S YOUR FRIEND, RIGHT?

YEAH. ONE OF THEM.

I'M SORRY.

HE'S THE ONE... I KEEP WANTING TO FIND OUT THAT IT WAS A DREAM.

LIKE, I KNOW MY OTHER FRIENDS DIED, AND I MISS THEM, BUT I *KNOW* THEY'RE DEAD.

BUT KARL...

YOU REALLY LIKED HIM, HUH?

WERE YOU... MORE THAN FRIENDS?

HE DIDN'T THINK SO.

THAT'S OKAY.

WHY ARE WE HERE? REALLY.

BECAUSE THESE KINDS OF PLACES ARE ALL GOING TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS IN A FEW YEARS, AND FOR THE MOST PART NOBODY GOES TO THEM ANYMORE.

AND THEY'VE GOT BIG TABLES.

HIYA! WELCOME TO APPLEBEANS!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY A SAMPLER TRIO TODAY?

NO.

I'LL TAKE WHATEVER LAGER YOU HAVE THAT DOESN'T TASTE LIKE WATER. AND A COFFEE.

CAN I HAVE A LAGER?

HE'LL HAVE A SODA.

NO, I'LL HAVE A COFFEE, TOO.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD COFFEE BEFORE?

SURE.

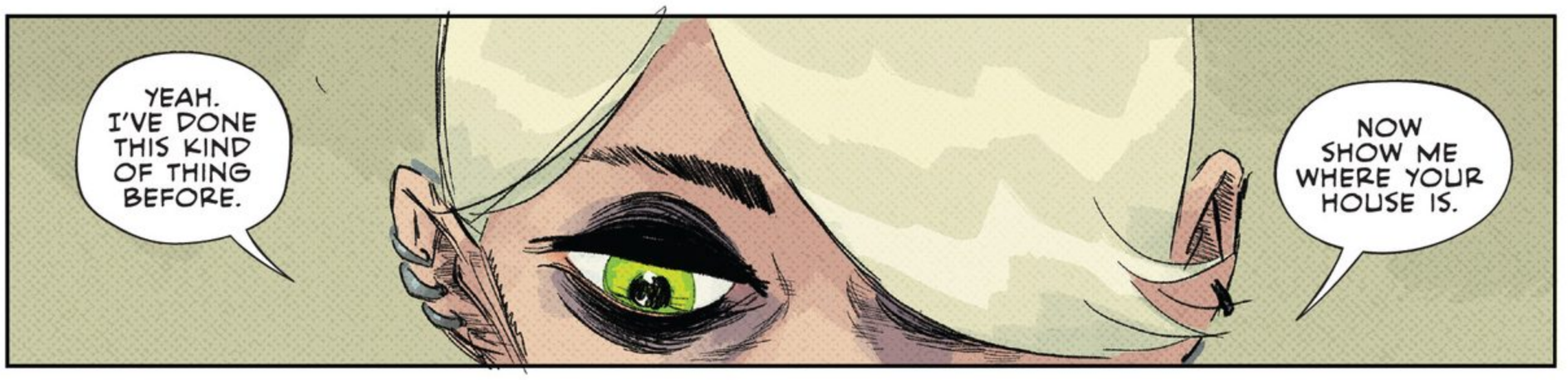
YOU HEARD THE KID.

UH, RIGHT. I'LL GET RIGHT TO IT.

OKAY. LET'S DO THIS.

HAVE YOU DONE THIS KIND OF THING BEFORE?

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE YOU'VE DONE THIS KIND OF THING BEFORE.


YEAH. I'VE DONE THIS KIND OF THING BEFORE.
NOW SHOW ME WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS.

YOU KNOW WHO THAT KID IS, RIGHT?

HUH?

THE ONE WITH THE WEIRD BLONDE LADY WITH THE EYES.

WHY WOULD I KNOW WHO HE IS?

HE'S THE ONE WHO SURVIVED. WHEN THEY FOUND THE BODIES OF THOSE THREE KIDS.

HE'S THE ONE WHO LIVED, BUT WOULDN'T TELL THE COPS ANYTHING.

JAMES SOMETHING.

AND IS THAT HIS SISTER?

NO. WAY TOO OLD.

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE. DON'T THINK SHE'S FROM AROUND HERE.

THAT'S FUCKING WEIRD.

YOU KNOW HE WAS A SUSPECT.

YEAH.

YOU KNOW HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE IN SCHOOL RIGHT NOW. WHY THE HELL IS HE--

YEAH, TAM. I KNOW.

OKAY.

PAF

WE'VE GOT YOUR HOUSE HERE. THREE BODIES IN THE RAVINE BEHIND YOUR FAMILY'S PROPERTY. YOUR FRIENDS.

TWO MORE WERE FOUND IN THE WOODS OFF PIKE'S CREEK. TWO IN THE POTAWATOMI CABINS AT THE CAMPGROUNDS. ONE MORE FOUND FLOATING DOWN BY THE NICOLET BOATHOUSE. ONE ON THE WOODWINDS HIKING TRAIL.

NINE DEAD. THAT'S WHAT'S BEEN REPORTED, ANYWAYS. FOURTEEN CHILDREN ARE MISSING...AND MAPPING WHERE THEY GOT LOST, THAT'S GOING TO BE THE HARD PART.

NOW, WHERE DID SOPHIE MAHONEY LIVE?

OKAY, I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO FIND THAT.

I CAN TELL YOU WHERE.

YEAH?

YEAH. THAT'S WHERE I LIVE.

YOU'RE RELATED TO...

SOPHIE. YEAH. I'M HER BROTHER.

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?

SHE'S HERE TO--

SHUT UP, JAMES.

DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING? DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HER? WHERE SHE MIGHT BE.

SHE'S ONE OF THE MISSING ONES. NOT THE BODIES.

YEAH.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR SISTER IS, TOMMY.

HOW THE *FUCK* DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?

NAMETAG.

WHO THE *FUCK* ARE YOU? WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO THIS KID?

JAMES. TAKE MY BACKPACK AND STEP OUTSIDE.

YEAH, OKAY...I...

OOPS.

SHIT.

DID YOU *DO* SOMETHING TO--

CLANK

YOU DON'T TOUCH ME. OKAY?

I'M NOT THE BAD GUY HERE. I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU'RE HURTING BUT--

THUD

YOU DON'T KNOW A FUCKING THING ABOUT ANYTHING!

JAMES.

I'M GOING.

I'M LETTING YOU GO NOW.

I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU. I'M NOT GOING TO CAUSE A SCENE.

I'M JUST GOING TO WALK OUT THE DOOR AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SEE ME AGAIN.

YOU CAN KEEP THE MONEY.

TAKE YOUR FIFTY DOLLARS AND GET THE FUCK OUT.

SO, WHAT IS IT? YOU IN SOME KIND OF SATAN CULT THING?

YOU CUT THEIR HEADS OFF AND DO WEIRD SHIT TO THEM?

WHAT...I DIDN'T...

JUST IGNORE HER, JAMES.

HEY. THIS IS TOMMY MAHONEY CALLING FOR THE SHERIFF.

YEAH, SOPHIE'S BROTHER.

I WANT TO REPORT SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS.

SO...*UH.* WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP IN MONSTER HUNTING?

THE NEXT STEP IS YOU'RE GOING HOME.

OH.

DO I HAVE TO?

YEAH.

OKAY. I STILL WANT TO HELP.

AND YOU'LL GET TO. I PROMISE. BUT I HAVE TO DO THIS NEXT PART ALONE, OKAY?

FUCK.

BZZZZ

BZZZ

YEAH. I KNOW.

I KNOW THE DRILL.

IT DOESN'T HAPPEN ***EVERY*** TIME.

I'M HANGING UP NOW.

WHO DO YOU KEEP TALKING TO?

AN ASSHOLE.

CLAP

IF SOMEBODY COMES TO TALK TO YOU, YOU CAN SAY EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED.

JUST TELL THE TRUTH. YOU DON'T NEED TO LIE.

BECAUSE THEY'RE GOING TO THINK WE'RE CRAZY ANYWAYS.

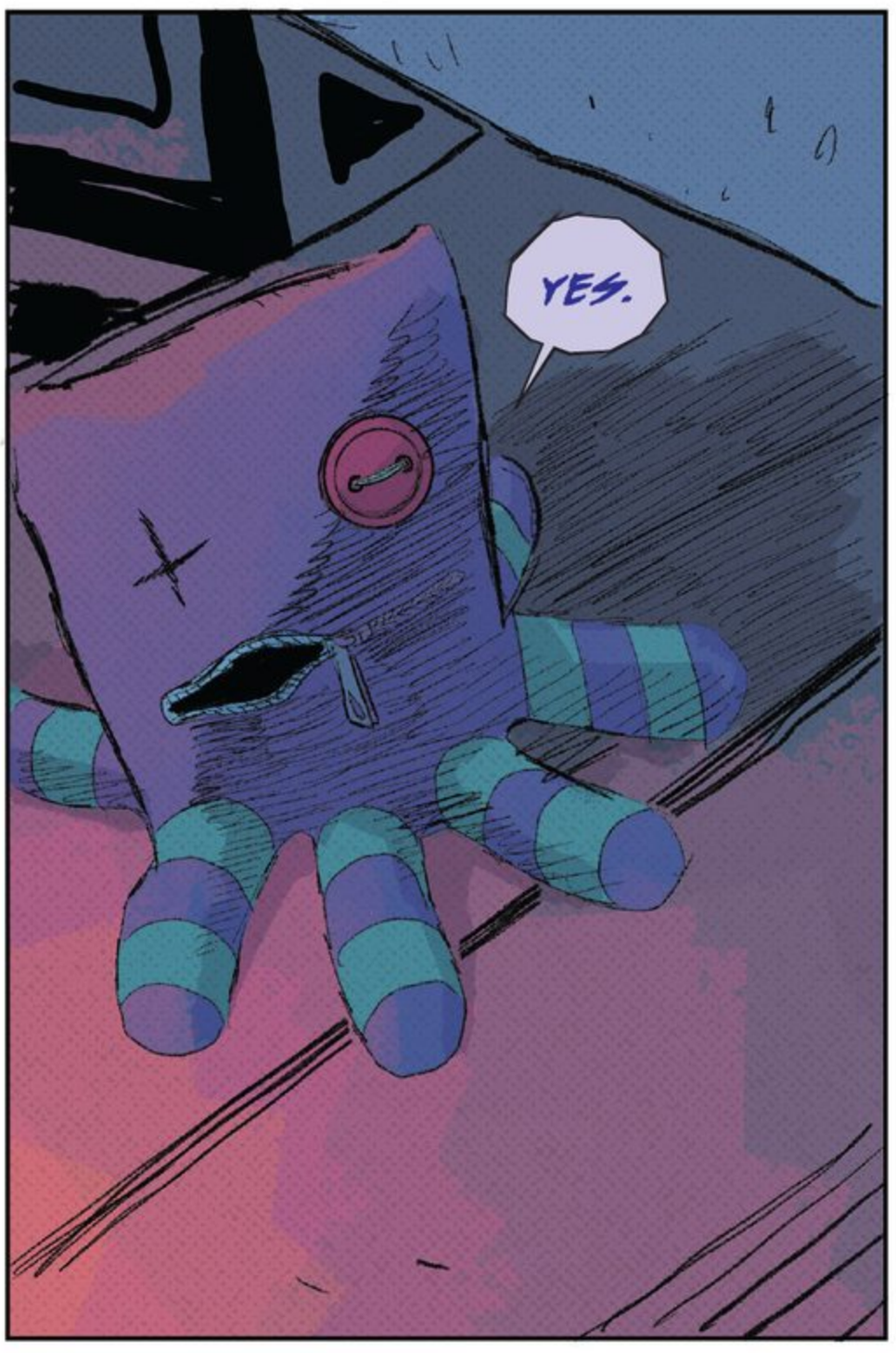
YEAH. PRETTY MUCH.

MOTEL
VACANCY
MOTEL

YOU HAD A CALL.
YEAH.
YEAH?

TOO BAD THEY MISSED ME.
HEY, I DON'T WANT TROUBLE.
ME NEITHER.

YOU SAW THE MAP. IT'S A CLASS E7. THERE ARE STILL KIDS MISSING, SO IT'S STASHING ITS FOOD SOMEWHERE. THERE ARE PROBABLY CAVES OFF THE LAKE.
I NEED TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF THING IT'S GOING TO BE BEFORE I GO LOOKING FOR IT. AND IT'S PROBABLY GOING TO BE A FEW DAYS BEFORE I CAN DO THAT.
SO I NEED YOU THINKING ON IT IN THE MEAN-WHILE, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?


YES.

MOTEL
VACANCY
MOTEL
SHERIFF
I WANT HER OUT OF HERE.
YEAH, BEN. I'M ON THE CASE.
THERE'S BEEN *NOISES* IN THERE... WEIRD SHIT.
YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR OFFICE, BEN.
WHAT IN THE SAM HILL...

POLICE. OPEN UP.

KNO

KNOC

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT IN THERE, MA'AM. BUT I DON'T WANT ANY FUNNY BUSINESS.

NOTHING FUNNY GOING ON IN HERE, OFFICER.

NOW, WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

"THE ANGEL OF ARCHER'S PEAK"
PART TWO

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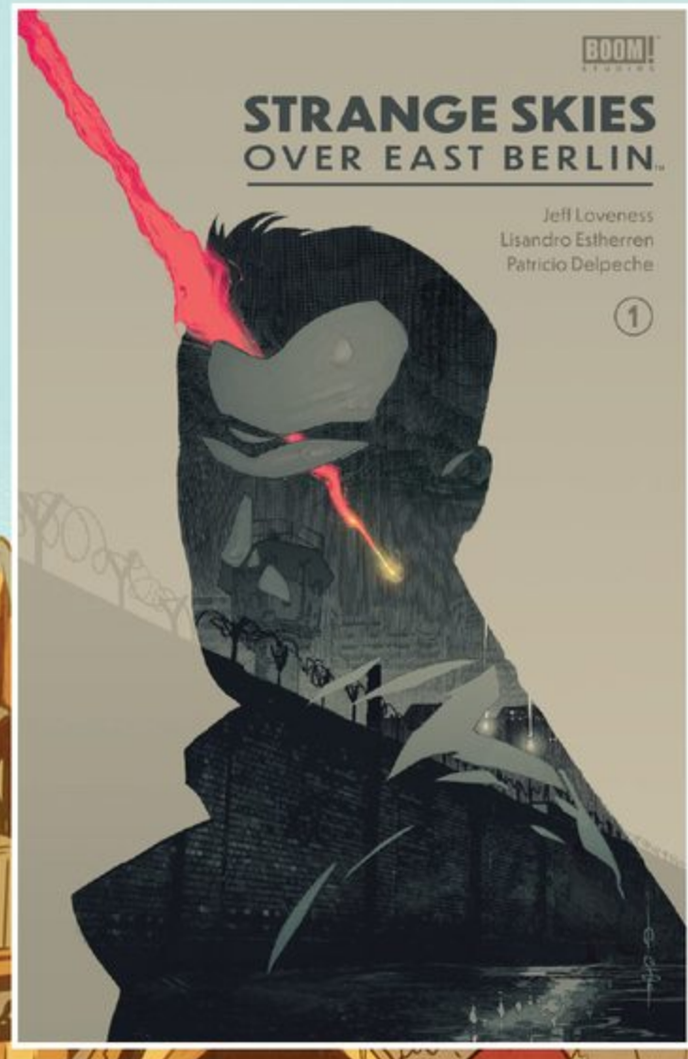

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"